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MONTANA FOREST PRODUCTS BULLETIN

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GARY G. BROWN, State Forester

PAUL MOORE, Editor

VOL. 16, NO. 1

JANUARY/APRIL 1991

This bulletin is mailed quarterly to individuals engaged in the Forest Products Industry in Montana. In addition, it is mailed to county agents, lumber brokers, wholesalers, dealers of sawmill and logging equipment and educators, as well as departments of forestry in many states.

The purpose of the newsletter is to communicate information regarding the properties and uses of wood products, promote the efficiency in the utilization of wood from the stump to the end product, and to serve as an information source for members of the forest products industry.

All persons receiving this newsletter are asked to examine their mailing addresses and advise this office of any corrections needed for proper mailing.

WOOD TREATERS EXPRESS CONCERNS OVER NEW EPA WOOD TREATING REGULATIONS

At the Intermountain Roundwood Association's 3rd annual meeting in Missoula last week, concern was expressed by western wood treaters over stringent new wood treating regulations that will take affect June 6, 1991. According to Terry Claver, the Association's president, "The Environmental Protection Agency's New Rules for Wood Preserving Wastes will put most of the small family post and pole plants that treat with pentachlorophenol out of the treating business. Only 12 of the State's treating plants said they will continue to treat," Claver said. These plants will be required to install engineered non-earthen drip pads, including a collection device/system to control drippage, leakage, and storm water. The drip pads must also be underlaid with leak detection systems, and the pad and leak detection system must be underlaid with a chemical-resistant liner.

Existing drip pads will be allowed to continue operating without liners and leak detection systems for up to 15 years, provided the owners obtain from an independent, qualified, registered professional engineer, a certification of compliance with all other design standards. There are other requirements as well. For more information, contact Terry Claver, Intermountain Roundwood Association, Box 442, Stanford, MT 59474. Phone: (406) 566-2453.

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CHILE TO INCREASE OUTPUT OF GRADED LUMBER

The Chilean Forestry Institute, with funding and assistance from Canada's International Development Research Center, has purchased the first stress grading machine in Latin America. According to Chilean Forestry News, the cost of the stress grading machine is U.S. $70,000. United States exporters who compete with Chilean wood products, especially radiata pine, can expect increased competition, since Chile will be able to increase it's production of correctly graded lumber at lower production cost. Chile's main markets for processed wood products in 1989 were Japan (23.9%), West Germany (8.2%), Belgium (8%) and Brazil (7.7%). The fifth largest market for Chilean wood products was the United States (6.8% of export value) which purchased $53.4 million worth in 1989. (Source: The Utilization & Marketing Review; Vol 2, No 12.

TIE-TEST REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

A comprehensive, 66-page progress report on the 23-year in-track test of treated wood cross-ties on the C & NW Railroad mainline near Des Plaines, Illinois, is now available from the Railway Tie Association.

The test encompasses a wide variety of tie lengths, cross sections, and spacing, and has been constantly inspected, monitored, and reported by both the Association of American Railroads and Railway Tie Association (RTA). The test is said to be the most comprehensive test being regularly monitored in North America.

The progress report, titled "Tie Performance-A Progressive Report of the Des Plains Test Site" can be purchased through RTA.

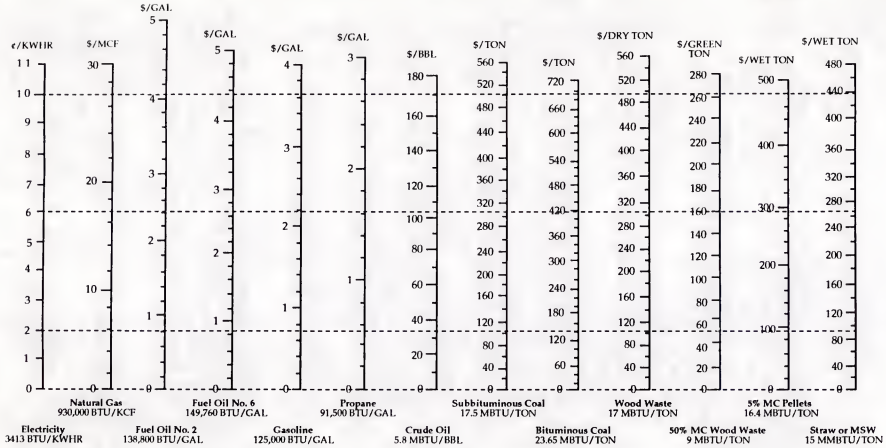
For more information, contact RTA, 910 Sheraton Drive, Suite 430, Mars, Pennsylvania 16046, Phone: (412) 772-1790. (Source Forest Products Journal Vol. 41, No 1.)

MONTANA ENERGY COST COMPARISON CHART

Is it cheaper to heat with firewood or wood pellets, electric baseboard or fuel oil? The **Montana Energy Cost Comparison Chart** on the following page, allows you to make a quick comparison of various Montana fuels. For example: to compare the cost of green wood waste (50% MC) to No. #2 heating oil at $0.80 per gallon, draw a horizontal line across the chart, which shows the equivalent wood waste cost to be $51 per ton. These costs are comparable on an energy content basis, since the efficiencies of boilers tested by DNRC show fuel oil and wood waste burners to operate at about the same efficiency.

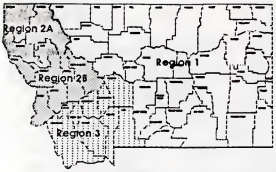
Fuel switching usually is not based on fuel savings alone. Other factors to be considered include maintenance, storage, environmental requirements and disposal costs. This chart was prepared by Howard Hains, Department of Natural Resources, Energy Division, Helena, Montana.

MONTANA ENERGY COST COMPARISON



K = 1,000 M = 1,000,000 TON = 2,000 pounds CF = cubic foot LB = pound MSW = municipal solid waste
GAL = gallon BBL = barrel KWHR = kilowatt hour MC = moisture content BTU = British thermal unit

Sources of energy equivalents:
Natural gas—average content of gas from Montana's eight most populated cities.
Electricity, fuel oils, gasoline, propane, crude oil, and coals—*Montana Energy Statistics*, Sixth Edition, November 1989.
Wood wastes and wood pellets—DNRC reports and tests.
Straw energy content—*Straw Combustion Energy Systems*, DNRC, August 1989.
MSW or trash energy equivalents—DNRC tests and *Solid Waste Management and Resource Recovery Study*, Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, August 1978.



Bureau of Business and Economic Research
University of Montana
Missoula, Montana 59812

MONTANA SAWLOG AND VENEER LOG PRICE REPORT

Based on a survey of mills
October-December 1990

The following information is a summary breakdown of recent past average prices reported by primary wood processors for logs of the various species listed. These prices are not necessarily a reflection of current market prices. Fair market prices may vary a great deal based on log size, length, quality, contract size and terms, and a number of other factors. All information reported is recent average price per thousand board feet (MBF), Scribner Decimal rule, delivered to the mill site, unless otherwise noted.

SAWLOGS Scribner Dec C MBF	REGION 1			*	REGION 2A			*	REGION 2B			*	REGION 3			*
	Avg.	Low	High		Avg.	Low	High		Avg.	Low	High		Avg.	Low	High	
Ponderosa pine	149	130	175	G/F	////////////////////			///	////////////////////			///	160	155	165	P
(Yellow)	////////////////////			///	318	215	350	G/F	325	325	325	G	////////////////////			/////
(Bull)	////////////////////			///	218	170	240	G/F	188	150	225	G/F	////////////////////			/////
Lodgepole pine	145	130	160	G	211	160	240	G/F	200	165	235	G/F	202	195	212	F/P
Douglas-fir	174	135	195	G/F	206	175	240	G/F	198	165	225	G/F	200	195	205	F/P
Western larch					201	175	240	G/F	206	190	225	G				
Engelmann spruce	135	130	140	F	218	160	240	G/F	216	200	245	G	215	210	220	P
Subalpine fir					197	180	215	G/F	191	175	220	F	200	195	205	P
Grand fir					196	180	215	G/F	183	175	190	F				
Western red cedar					238	200	300	G/F								
Hemlock					201	190	215	G/F								
White pine					354	290	390	G/F								
Cottonwood																

VENEER LOGS Scribner Dec C MBF	STATEWIDE REPORT			
Species	Avg.	Low	High	Demand next 60 days*
Douglas-fir	248	210	270	G/F
Ponderosa pine (Bull)	210	180	240	F/P
Western larch	248	210	270	G/F
Engelmann spruce	220	200	240	F
Other species	220	190	240	G/F

* Demand Next 60 days
G = Good
F = Fair
P = Poor

Montana Specialty Log Price Report
October - December 1990

Bureau of Business and Economic Research
University of Montana, Missoula, MT. 59812

The following information is a summary breakdown of recent past average price and high price per piece reported by Montana's specialty products producers. These prices are not necessarily a reflection of current market prices. All prices are mill-delivered prices.

RAILS (lodgepole pine only)
(Dollars per piece, high/average)

120 day projected demand: good fair poor

D.I.B. small end (in.)	Length (feet)						
	<10	10	12	14	16	18	20
2.5-3.0	1.50 .62	1.60 .66	1.70 .94	1.80 1.38	1.90 1.53		1.50 1.50
3.0-3.5	.88 .57	1.70 .94	1.80 1.17	1.90 1.43	1.92 1.61		2.40 1.96
3.5-4.0	.88 .57	1.90 .97	1.44 1.06	1.54 1.32	1.92 1.55		2.40 1.94
4.0-4.5	.88 .68	1.20 1.00	1.44 1.20	1.70 1.62	1.92 1.60		2.40 2.25
4.5-5.0	1.00 1.00	1.30 1.18	1.50 1.23	2.00 1.85	2.40 1.75	3.00 3.00	4.00 3.05

* D.I.B. = diameter inside bark

POLES (lodgepole pine and western larch only)
(Dollars per piece, high/average)
120 day projected demand: good fair poor

D.I.B. top end (in.)	Length (feet)						
	10	20	25	30	35	40	>40
3.0	1.20 .84	2.40 1.95	1.75 1.75				
5.0-5.5	2.00 1.35	2.40 2.20	2.00 2.00		23.50 22.00	27.50 26.00	
6.0-6.5	2.00 1.58	7.00 4.90	8.50 5.65	12.00 11.70	27.50 27.00	37.50 36.50	41.00 40.00
7.0	3.00 2.00	7.50 5.06	10.25 8.78	15.00 12.30	28.50 27.50	42.00 41.50	47.50 46.50
8.0	3.00 2.00	7.50 5.06	10.25 8.78	15.00 12.30	28.50 28.00	43.00 42.00	47.50 46.50

HOUSE LOGS: WL = western larch; LPP = lodgepole pine; ES = Engelmann spruce
(Dollars per piece, high/average)

120 day projected demand: good fair poor

Species	Top diam. (in.)	<16	16-25	33-35	>35
WL	8	8.25/8.25	8.25/8.25	24.75/24.75	24.75/24.75
	9-12	19.25/19.25	22.00/22.00	49.50/49.50	52.25/52.25
	13+	27.50/27.50	33.00/33.00	71.50/71.50	74.25/74.25
LPP	8	8.25/8.25	10.00/9.13	35.00/29.88	50.00/38.25
	9-12	19.25/19.25	22.00/21.00	50.00/49.75	65.00/52.65
	13+	27.50/27.50	33.00/32.00	80.00/75.75	100.00/71.42
ES	8	8.25/8.25	10.00/9.13	24.75/24.75	24.75/24.75
	9-12	19.25/19.25	22.00/21.00	49.50/49.50	100.00/76.13
	13+	27.50/27.50	33.00/32.00	71.50/71.50	200.00/137.13

POSTS (lodgepole pine only)
(Dollars per piece, high/average)
120 day projected demand: good fair poor

D.I.B. small end (in.)	Length (feet)		
	6.5	7.0	8.0
3.0	.15 .15	.50 .50	.42 .42
3.5	.78 .62	.84 .67	.42 .42
4.0	.78 .63	.84 .68	.80 .64
4.5	.85 .64	.85 .69	1.00 .82
5.0	.85 .68	.85 .74	1.00 .88
5.5	.85 .68	1.25 .81	1.50 .94
6.0	1.50 .78	1.75 .93	1.75 1.14
8.0	.55 .55	.75 .75	1.75 1.32

*D.I.B. = diameter inside bark

SMALL EXPORTERS FORM TRADE ASSOCIATION

Formation of a new trade association, the Small Business Exporters Association, was recently announced. Based in Washington, the Association is intended to expand export opportunities for American products and services throughout the world. The association will publish a monthly newsletter and offer a data base designed for researching markets and trade opportunities. Membership information is available from: Marty Duggan, Executive Director, phone (703) 642-2490. Source: FPRS Technical Newsletter, Vol. 4, No 4.

MONTANA DIRECTORY OF CONSULTANT FORESTERS AVAILABLE

The 1991 listing of forestry consultants working in Montana will be available free-of-charge this month. This listing contains about 20 consultants who provide services to private forest land owners and operators in various phases of forestry. If you would like a copy, contact Sheri Smith, Department of State Lands, 2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula, Montana 59801, or contact your local Department of State Lands Field Office.

BOOK DESCRIBES WHOLESALE MARKETING OF WESTERN SOFTWOODS

Trading Western Softwood Lumber is a 183-page book which describes in detail wholesale marketing of Western softwood lumber. This entry-level text overviews all aspects of the marketing process; from lumber manufacturing, buying/selling and transporting, through lumber claims, the future market, and industry terminology.

The information is divided into the following areas: structure of the lumber market; a description of railroad, truck, and piggyback van transportation options; calculating of freight rates; a discussion of 20 key issues (grading, species, tally, etc.) that must be addressed before buying or selling wholesale quantities, handling lumber claims, lumber futures, market and a full glossary of terms specific to the industry.

Trading Western Softwood Lumber was written by Dave Leckey, who has over 10 years trading and management experience in the softwood lumber industry. The publication is available for $24.95 plus shipping and handling. Contact Highland Press, Box 933, Wilsonville, Oregon 97070. Phone (503) 625-5926.

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

March 11-12, 1991--The Sixth Annual Workshop on Design, Operation and Maintenance of Circular and Band Saws. The workshop is designed for those who wish to obtain better performance from their saws by reduction of kerf, sawing variation and down time. The material presented will be of great benefit to sawmill managers and to personnel involved in quality control and sawfiling. The meeting will be held at the Red Lion Hotel-Lloyd Center, Portland, Oregon. For more information contact: Ryszard Szymani, Director, Wood Machining Institute, P.O. Box 476, Berkeley, CA 94701, Phone: (415) 943-5240, Fax: (415) 945-0947.

March 13-15, 1991--19th Annual Forest Industries Clinic and Show, Oregon Convention Center, Portland Oregon. For more information, contact Forest Industries Clinic & Show, 500 Howard Street, San Francisco, California 94105. Phone: (415) 995-2471. Fax: (415) 267-7683.

April 9-11, 1991--International Particleboard/Composite Materials Symposium, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington. For more information contact Tom Maloney, Wood Materials & Engineering Lab, WSU, Pullman, Washington 99164. Phone: (509) 335-2262.

March 18-24, 1991--National Bioenergy Conference, Small-Scale Bioenergy Alternatives For Industry, Farm & Institutions: A Users Prospective, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Contact Richard Folk, University of Idaho, Dept of Forest Products, Moscow, Idaho 83843, Phone: (208)-885-6126.

June 20-22, 1991--National Forest History and Interpretation, symposium/ workshop, Missoula, Montana, Contact Center for Continuing Education, University of Montana. Phone (406) 243-4623.

PUBLICATIONS

MONTANA Forestry Best Management Practices Implementation monitoring--The 1990 Forestry BMP Audits Final Report. To obtain a copy, contact Bill Schultz, Montana Department of State Lands, Forestry Division, Missoula, Montana 59801.

Ponderosa Pine, The Western Wood Products Association has published a 12-page fact-book about Ponderosa pine. This illustrated full-color publication discusses growth habits and appearance, production statistics, finishing, treating, grading and shows in-use photographs of paneling, furniture, cabinetry, wood windows and decks. The first copy is available free-of-charge, each additional copy is $1.00. They are available from the Western Wood Products Association, Dept. PP, Yeon Building, 522 SW Fifth Ave., Portland Oregon 97204-2122. Phone: (503) 224-3930.

The following publications and software are available by contacting the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53705-2398.

Field trials of Copper Naphthenate-Treated Wood, De Groot, Link, Huffman. The industry has accepted copper naphthenate, a wood preservative for several decades, but we have not used it extensively to pressure-treat wood products that will come in contact with the ground. This paper addresses concerns about copper-tolerant fungi and evaluates the status of copper naphthenate-treated stakes in long-term field plots at the Forest Products Laboratory.

PLYMAP - A Computer Simulation Model of the Rotary Peeled Softwood Plywood Manufacturing Process, Henry Spelter, USDA Forest Service Gen. Tech. Rpt. FPL-GTR-65; This report documents a simulation model of the plywood manufacturing process. It's purpose is to enable a user to make quick estimates of the economic impact of a particular process change within a mill. The program was designed to simulate the processing of plywood within a relatively simplified mill design.

Target Set Reduction - User's Guide, IMPROVE System, Version 1.0 (3/13/90). The users guide includes the software and instructions for a routine to help sawmill owners and operators quantify monetary losses due to tolerating oversized lumber and excessive lumber variation. The routine also quantifies the amount of oversizing and setting increment for final target set reduction for a particular size class-breakdown system combination. Values derived from Target set reduction can actually be implemented in a given system.

Entrepreneurial Opportunities for Secondary Manufacturing With Hardwoods: Sources of Evolving Technology and Technology Transfer, Erickson, John R. Zerbe, John I. This report explains the involvement of the Forest Products Laboratory with other research institutes and industry in helping to create a competitive edge for forest products. The development of new products and methods in both the secondary manufacturing of hardwoods and the primary processing of lumber are described.

WOOD PRODUCTS FOR SALE OR WANTED

Wanted--Energy West Mining Company located in Huntington, Utah is actively seeking potential suppliers of 8" X 8" X 36" rough cut wooden blocks for their underground coal mines. For more information, please contact Doug Jensen at (801) 687-9821, ext. 255 or at P.O. Box 310, Huntington, Utah 84528.

Wanted--Sawmills wanted to produce timbers for bridges, shipyard blocking, railway car decking, surfaced lumber and timbers and T&G, cut to length rough sawn hardwoods and survey stakes. We also buy peeled and unpeeled oak piling to 60' lengths. Let us know what you like to produce, we will arrange trucking. Contact Tom Albert, Albert Forest Products, Inc. P.O. Box 39, Ingomar, Pennsylvania 15127. Phone: (412) 366-1440. Fax: (412) 366-1551.

For Sale--¼" to 2½" dia. x 16' long or larger dowels, available in lengths up to 10' long, balls, bases, blocks, electronic parts, handles, knobs, moldings, plugs, reels, rollers, shaping, spools, toy parts, wedges and wheels. We treat for outside use. Also, Coopers and Food Processors supplies. We now have a Weinig Profimat 22N molder to help you with that special molding you may need. American Wood Working Co., P.O. Box 335, Montello, Wisconsin 53949. Phone: (608) 297-2131. Fax: (608) 297-7124.

For Sale--Kiln-dried lumber, (Appalachian) 1 T/L 4/4 FAS Red Oak; 1 T/L 4/4 #1 Com Red Oak; 1 T/L 4/4 FAS White Oak; 2 T/L 4/4 #1 Com White Oak. All lumber is graded after Kiln Drying and can be put up to your specs. Contact: Jon Fox, Germain Timber Company, Gordonsville, Virginia. Phone: (703) 832-5934, Evening: (804) 296-5586. Fax: (804) 832-5928.

Wanted--Yawkinney Co. located in Arlington, Texas is seeking rough sawn Ponderosa pine and lodgepole pine of 5" X 6" X 8'+. Contact Mike Olsen, 1-800-800-7432.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Grapple Skidders: 1) 1987 Timberjack 380A, Cummins 6 BT Single 6 Arch $42,000. 2) 1987 Timberjack 380A, 380A Cummins, 28L x 26 tires $42,000. 3) 1986 Timberjack Grapple attach dual Arch to fit above $6,500.

Cable Skidders: 4) Three left John Deer 440D "Never Used in Logging" new 18.4 x 36 tires @ $33,000. 5) 1984 Timberjack 240A, F-R in transfer case $25,500.

Feller Bunchers: 6) 1982 Franklin 170 Wheel LDR Hydro AX 20" Head $28,500. 7) 1981 Franklin 170XL Wheel $19,500.

Other Skidders in stock. Also repairable skidders. Large selection of new and used parts, new and used tires. New log skidder chains now available. Reasonable freights available.

For above, contact: Midwest Tractor, Inc., Hwy. 10, 4 Miles West of Big Lake, MN 55309. Ron Berthiaume. Phone: (612) 263-3777. Evenings: (612-295-5037.

Northern white shakes/shingles: 18" long, 1/2" - 5/8" thick. 4 bundles make a square with an 8" exposure. One square covers 100 square feet. Will also custom cut. For more information, phone or write, Donald Hauner, P.O. Box 438 Littlefork, MN 56653. Phone: (218) 278-4115.

The PORTABLE PRECISION SAWMILL (PPS) offers high-speed utilization of small diameter logs 4" to 12" in diameter. The log moves through the mill, being slabbed on 2 sides simultaneously. The 2-sided cant is then resawn into 2x4's or 2x6's in a continuous operation. This all-steel portable system has built-in accuracy due to hydraulic saw set and precision machined resaw collar. For more information, contact Portable Precision Sawmill System, Inc., Box 194, Superior, MT 59872. Phone: (406) 822-4378.

For sale or trade: Sawmill--50' steel frame on wheels, 40" and 48" Saws, Moline Gas power plant, edger, surface planer, sawdust blower tool trailer and other accessories. Asking $6,000. Will trade for small log truck with loader or track loader with backhoe. Contact Diamond W. Post & Pole, 5121 E. Gallatin Road, Belgrade, MT 59714. Phone: (406) 388-1580.

DNRC BIOMASS PROPOSAL SOLICITATION

The Department of Natural Resource and Conservation (DNRC) will be soliciting proposals later this spring from qualified individuals, organizations, institutions, industry, private consulting firms and government agencies, who can demonstrate the use of biomass for energy on a small-to-medium scale. The project can use existing or new technologies, or methods of recovering and utilizing biomass resources for energy in Montana. This is not a research and development program. The goal of this program is to develop one or several Montana demonstrations of commercially available bioenergy technologies not now in wide-spread use. For more information, or to be placed on the mailing list for a copy of the Bioenergy Demonstration Project Request for Proposal, contact: Chris Picotte, Energy Div., Montana DNRC, Resources & Conservation, 1520 E. Sixth Ave., Helena, Montana 59620. Phone: (406) 444-6697.

If you wish to advertise a forest product or a piece of wood-processing machinery in this bulletin, complete form below. No charge is made for this service. If you wish to rerun item, a written request must be submitted before the next issue.

NAME OF PERSON OR FIRM:_____

MAILING ADDRESS:_____

ZIP CODE:_____ PHONE:_____

Type or print your advertisement in the space below, detach and return to:

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Forestry Division
Forest Products Bulletin
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